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Serial No. 10/574,556 Filing Date: April 3, 2006 Customer No. 26,289 Attorney's Docket No. 2003JP322

Complete set of claims

•
1(canceled).
2(canceled).
3(canceled).
4(canceled).
Comprising the steps of: forming an insulating layer and an etching stopper layer on a substrate; removing part of the insulating layer by dry etching; and filling an electrically conductive material into a groove or hole thus formed, wherein said etching stopper layer is formed by curing a composition comprising a silicon containing polymer, wherein 5% to 100% by mole, based on the total number of moles of silicon contained in the silicon-containing polymer, of silicon is contained in a disilylbenzene structure, further where the silicon-containing polymer has a carbon content of not less than 30% by weight, and further where the etching stopper layer is cured at a temperature in the range of 200°C to 500°C for 30 to 50 minutes.
S(canceled).
(canceled).
B(canceled).
e(canceled).

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10(canceled).

11(canceled).

12(canceled).

13(canceled).

14(canceled).

15(canceled).

16(canceled).

17(canceled).

18(canceled).

19(previously presented). The process of claim 5, where the disilylbenzene structure is represented by formula (I),

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
R^{1} & R^{3} \\
-Si - Ar - Si - I \\
R^{2} & R^{4}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein R¹ to R⁴ each independently are selected from hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkylamino group, and an alkylsilyl group, and Ar represents an aryl group.

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20(previously presented). The process of claim 5, where the disilylbenzene structure is represented by formula (II),

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1} & R^{5} & R^{6} \\
\hline
R^{1} & Si & R^{3} \\
\hline
R^{2} & R^{7} & R^{8} & R^{4}
\end{array} (II)$$

wherein R^1 to R^4 each independently are selected from hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkylamino group, and an alkylsilyl group; and R^5 to R^8 are independently selected from hydrogen, a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group, a halogen atom, a C_1 to C_3 alkoxide group, and a C_1 to C_3 amino group.